



MERCED COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

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MEMBER



MVC
ASSOCIATION
OF CALIFORNIA

June 2, 2014

Karen Barstow, CFO
Golden By-Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 1
Ballico, CA 95303

RE: Facility Inspection

Dear Ms. Barstow,

Personnel from the Merced County Mosquito Abatement District have inspected the Golden By-Products waste tire facility on three occasions in May. A limited amount of mosquito breeding was detected at your facility during each visit. The immature mosquitoes were tentatively identified as *Culex* spp. These species are capable of transmitting West Nile virus. No West Nile virus activity has been recorded in Merced County in 2014. Additionally, no adult mosquitoes were observed during the inspections.

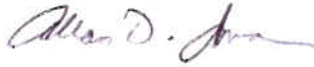
The potential for local or exotic mosquito species to be introduced and established at your facility still exists. For instance, *Aedes albopictus* (Asian Tiger Mosquito) was introduced to California from flower cuttings from China in 2001. Currently, *Aedes aegypti* (yellow fever mosquito) have been found in Fresno, Madera, and San Mateo Counties. Both of these mosquito species thrive in water holding tires. The Merced County Mosquito Abatement District continues to support the extension of your Waste Tire Facility Permit. Additionally the District requests:

- 1) Water should be drained from the tires during the unloading process. The District will be promptly notified if Golden By-Products personnel notice an insect infestation accompanying any incoming tire shipment.
- 2) After a significant rainfall event, priority should be given to shredding tires that are holding water.
- 3) Any tires stored on the premises for an extended period of time should be stacked in a manner to prevent water from accumulating in the tires.
- 4) Any water used in the storage, preparation, or maintenance of the tire shredding process should not be allowed to stand or pond for more than three days
- 5) District personnel should be allowed access to the property to perform mosquito surveillance and control activities
- 6) The District suggests your facility not accept used tires from the Southeast United States, Mexico, or from Asia. These locales have significant mosquito breeding problems associated with used tires. *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes thrive in those areas.

The purpose of the District is to provide area-wide mosquito control, prevent mosquito-borne disease, and reduce economic loss and discomfort from pestiferous mosquitoes.

The Merced County Mosquito Abatement District supports your efforts to properly recycle waste tires and receive an extension of your waste tire disposal permit from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Allan D. Inman".

Allan D. Inman
Manager-Entomologist

